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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The editor is not responsible for opinions expressed in this department. All communications must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer to ensure publication.

WHERE ARE THE UNIT FLAGS?

Dear Editor: Will you kindly advise through the *Journal* what has become of the different Unit flags which the nurses carried with them to France? Our Unit, No. 53, would especially like to know where the flags are placed after being sent to the Surgeon General's Office in Washington. I shall be very grateful to receive this information, and know many other nurses will also.

Massachusetts

AUGUSTA E. JOHNSON.

WANTED—OLD COPIES OF THE JOURNAL

Dear Editor: I am writing to ask if you can let me know if there is any possibility of my obtaining the back files of the *American Journal of Nursing*. We are very anxious to have this for our Library in the Peking Union Medical College Training School for Nurses and hope it will be possible to obtain them.

ANNA D. WOLF, Superintendent.

(*Journals* necessary to complete this file are October, November, December, 1900; all of 1901 through 1904; all of 1906; January, February, March, April, June, 1907; July, 1908; October, 1909; all of 1910 and 1911; January, February, March, 1912. We also have a call for August, October, November, December, 1911; January, 1912; September, 1913.—Ed.)

WANTED—OLD COPIES OF LEAGUE REPORTS

Dear Editor: I should like to get in touch with some one who has old copies of the reports of the Superintendents' Society, now the League of Nursing Education,—especially those of the first ten years.

A SUPERINTENDENT.

(Replies may be sent to this office, addressed Superintendent, care Letter Department.—Ed.)

RECONSTRUCTION FOR THE ARMY NURSE

I.

Dear Editor: I wonder if nurses discharged from the Service without disability, who now find themselves too sick to be able to work, realize that they can apply for treatment to the government through the United States Public Health Service. Some of the ex-service people have an idea that it is only those who had disability and were receiving compensation, who are entitled to treatment. This is not the case. I, myself, was taken sick before my accrued leave had expired. I took care of myself for two weeks thinking that it was only a slight indisposition which would be corrected with rest and quiet, but at the end of that time, when I was growing worse instead of better, I met an officer of my American Legion Post, a nurse, who asked me why I did not apply to the Government for the treatment I needed. I had thought I felt too miserable to bother with the red tape I thought it would necessitate to apply for treatment, but there is really very little. After a diagnosis and history of the case have been made, a specialist takes charge of the patient and a nurse appreciates this thoroughness. In my

case I had an intestinal and stomach specialist and the best of care and attention from the doctor as well as the hospital, where I am treated just as any private patient who has her own doctor is treated. It is probably well known that the U. S. Public Health Service has a number of hospitals throughout the United States, but in cities where there are not any, the patient is sent to a private hospital. I would urge all nurses desiring to apply for treatment not to hesitate to do so, either through their American Legion Post, the Home Service Section of their Red Cross Chapter or their Red Cross Division Director, all of whom stand ready and willing to help every ex-service nurse.

A. L. L.

II.

Dear Editor: Through the columns of the *Journal* I would like to tell other nurses who may have been disabled in the service about the advantages for vocational training which the government is offering. When I returned from France disabled, and while still a patient in a U. S. General Hospital, the Federal Board Adviser came each week to talk with us and to offer vocational training in any line of work that we were fitted to pursue and that might appeal to us, extending over a period of from one to four years. Any nurse who has been disabled in the service and wishes to take advantage of the vocational training must make application direct to the Federal Vocational Board in the Division where she is living, or through the Director of the Red Cross Nursing Service, who will take the matter up for her. This application must be made within one year after discharge and the course asked for must be pursued within five years. Every case receives careful consideration and each person in training is paid eighty dollars a month to cover expenses, and more according to those depending on her. My disability, resulting from an infection following injury in France, makes it impossible for me to use either arm to any great extent, so I asked for training in poultry raising and bee keeping. Washington approved of two years' training at the State Agricultural College of Colorado, but as the climate there was too cold, I was transferred to the University of California, where it is warmer. Here I am getting a very good course in poultry husbandry, which covers every phase of the industry from incubation to the general management of a plant. Along with the poultry work I am getting a very good course in bee keeping, which is pleasant and interesting and is easily handled. While I have had to give up a profession which I thought nothing could replace, the Government, through this vocational training, is compensating me for what I have lost and is enabling me to be independent and to do something that is profitable as well as useful.

K. B. M.

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE

Dear Editor: Just a few weeks ago, the members of the New York City League for Nursing Education were surprised to hear that Amy M. Hilliard had resigned her position as superintendent of nurses of Bellevue and Allied Hospitals, and intended to take charge of the Samaritan Hospital, Troy. Miss Hilliard is one of our best loved members, having endeared herself to us during her years of service as Inspector of Nurse Training Schools, and more recently at Bellevue she has made that vast institution seem very human. To those familiar with the nursing problems presented by the four hospitals included under the term "Bellevue and Allied" it is easy to understand what an immense relief it must be for Miss Hilliard to let this burden slip from her shoulders, and sorry